

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 05260 261117Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 INR-07 SS-15 /038 W
-----068505 261124Z /15

R 261030Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4786

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 5260

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, TW, US
SUBJECT: PASSEX EXERCISES

REF: CINCPAC 280245Z JUL 77

1. REFTEL, WHICH WAS SENT TO JCS AND MAY NOT HAVE BEEN SEEN BY THE DEPARTMENT, INFORMED US THAT SHARK HUNT EXERCISES WOULD BE REDUCED FROM TWO TO ONE PER QUARTER WITH THE TRAINING LOS SUPPLEMENETED BY ONE SMALL-SCALE PASSEX EXERCISE PER QUARTER. TDC HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO PROVIDE THE EMBASSY WITH FULL DETAILS ON PROPOSED PASSEX'S.

2. TDC INFORMS US THAT THEY ARE ATTEEMPTING TO SCHEDULE A PASSEX ON SEPTEMBER 9 TO TAKE ADVANYAGE OF THE PASSAGE OF A CARRIER TASK GROUP (CARRIER PLUS FOUR DESTROYERS/FRIGATES) TO THE EAST OF TAIWAN ON THAT DATE. ROC NAVY PLANS TO DISPATCH TWO TO FOUR DESTROYERS TO RENDEZVOUS WITH CARRIER TASK GROUP AND PERFORM VARIETY OF EXERCISES USUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH SHARK HUNT (THERE WILL HOWEVER BE NO ASW ACTIVITIES). SHOULD ALL FOUR ROC DESTROYERS PARTICIPATE, RESULTING EXERCISE MAY BE AS LARGE AS A SHARK HUNT. EXERCISE WILL TAKE PLACE AT LEAST 120 NAUTICAL MILES EAST OF TAIWAN.

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3. COMMENT: WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO "SMALL-SCALE" PASSEX EXERCISES, BUT THIS ONE, ASIDE FROM LOCATION EAST RATHER THAN WEST OF TAIWAN, IS A SHARK HUNT WITH NEW NAME. IT SEEMS THEREFORE INCONSISTENT WITH POLICY OUTLINED IN STATE 61289 OF MARCH 21 (DESIRE TO SCALE DOWN SCOPE AND FREQUENCY OF SHARK HUNT EXERCISES WHICH NOW REQUIRE PRESENCE OF U.S.

SURFACE SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT). IF THIS PASSEX BECOMES THE
MODEL WE WILL HAVE, INSTEAD OF TWO SHARK HUNT EXERCISES PER
QUARTER, ONE SHARK HUNT PLUS ONE PASSEX WHICH LOOKS LIKE A
SHARK HUNT. SUGGEST ANOTHER APPROACH TO DOD TO DEFINE TERM
"SMALL-SCALE".
UNGER

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Message Attributes

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